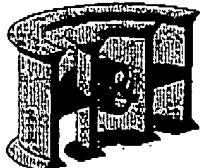


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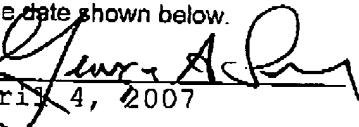
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/738395  
Applicant: Isamu Okabe et al.  
Filed: 12/17/2003  
TC/A.U.: 3682  
Examiner: M. Charles  
Docket No.: TWA96USA  
Customer No. 00270

Confirmation No: 7992

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

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Sir:

This is in response to the Official action of February 5, 2007. The applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the final rejection for the following reasons.

In addition to the reasons presented previously submitted, the applicants have noted that the strength of the pawl is an important consideration. As explained in the applicants' specification at paragraph 0005, the trend toward higher engine power has resulted in the application of greater loads to the tensioner ratchet mechanism, and these greater loads not only

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